



S. 597 - An act to extend the special postage stamp for breast cancer research for 4 years

FLOOR SITUATION

S. 597 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Senator Diane Feinstein (D-CA) on February 14, 2007. The bill passed the Senate by unanimous consent on November 14, 2007.

S. 597 is expected to be considered on the floor on December 11, 2007.

SUMMARY

S. 597 extends the printing date for the breast cancer research stamp until 2011.

BACKGROUND

The Stamp Out Breast Cancer Act (H.R. 1585) was introduced by former Representative Susan Molinari (R-NY) on May 13, 1997. It was signed into law on August 13, 1997. This Act allowed the United States Postal Service to issue a stamp that would raise funds for breast cancer research. To date, the stamp has raised over \$54 million for breast cancer research.

The stamps are issued at a first class rate plus a differential that cannot exceed 25 percent of a first class stamp. After accounting for the Postal Service's administrative costs, 70 percent of the collected sales of the special stamp are transferred to the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The current price of the stamps is 55 cents, which is 14 cents above the current regular first class stamp of 41 cents.

CBO ESTIMATE

"CBO estimates that enacting S. 597 would increase or decrease direct spending in each of the years 2008 through 2012, but would have no net effect on direct spending over the period as a whole. The legislation would not affect either revenues or discretionary spending, and would have no budgetary impact after 2012."

STAFF CONTACT

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